

Parish Council Agenda

Monday, November 10, 2014

7:30PM in the Old Prayer Room

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| I. | Opening Prayer | Dewane Bradford |
| II. | Approval of Minutes | Minutes from the
10/11/14 Meeting |
| III. | AGENDA | |
| | i) Pastor's Report | |
| | ii) Pastoral Assistant Report | |
| | iii) School Report | |
| | iv) Old Business | |
| | v) New Business | |
| | (a) Plans for coming year based on retreat discussion | |
| IV. | Closing Prayer | Steve Howe |
| V. | Hospitality | Amity Buxton |

Attachments:

10/11/14 meeting minutes

Pastoral Assistant report

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Date: October 11, 2014

Annual Reflection/Retreat

Present:

Father Tim Johnson
Norah Hippolyte
Gerry Barañano
Suzanne Doran
Dan Hagerty
Judith Sumida
Tricia Young

Not Present:

Dewayne Bradford
Amity Buxton
Steve Howe
Peter Muñoz
Sonya Simril

Opening Prayer:

Dan Hagerty

Approval of Minutes:

No corrections

Motion to approve: Dan Hagerty; Seconded: Judith Sumida.

Unanimously approved

For the Parish Council Reflection/Retreat we were asked to reflect on Prayer, Study, Generosity and Evangelizing and given the following recommended reading material:

Suggestions for Pastoral Councils published by the Office of Pastoral Planning of the Diocese of Oakland

Ten Essentials of Parish Life 2003 revision by Bishop John Cummins

Overall:

Father Tim echoed a comment by Judith Sumida that the reading material adopted the language of business strategy and planning that in some cases was felt to be inappropriate. The real focus of the retreat should be on love, being welcoming and inclusive and aiding those in need.

Discussion on Prayer:

Norah read the summary pages from the chapter covering prayer in Matthew Kelly's book, Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic.

The discussion centered around helping parishioners develop a daily routine of prayer in addition to the time spent at Mass, which itself is a time of prayer. Suzanne suggested creating "beautiful prayer experience" and encouraging parishioners to be more engaged in the Mass.

Suggestion:

- Encourage parishioners to submit their specific prayer requests to be read by the lector at Mass.

Discussion on Study:

The Parish has a bible study group and a Wings group.

Father Tim suggested bringing a Catholic perspective when studying any subject, including non-religious subjects.

Suggestion:

- Dedicate a table in the vestibule for a book swap in which the previous reader of the book would be encouraged to write a comment or two about the book and their takeaways.
- Recommend, perhaps in the bulletin, good apps, podcasts, websites, and other electronic media for study purposes and to increase Catholic engagement.

Discussion on Generosity:

Generosity should be expanded to develop a generosity of spirit and to be more other centered.

Suggestion:

- Demographics of parishioners is becoming younger, several families have very young children. Tricia suggested that St Leo's recruit teenage parishioners to babysit the very young children during Mass so that the parents can be more engaged with the Mass.
- Encourage parishioners to introduce themselves to their pew mates
- As appropriate have the Priest during Mass identify a parishioner's need and request prayer and assistance. The parishioner could remain anonymous if preferred. This type of giving is often very satisfying for everyone and would draw the community together.

Discussion on Evangelization:

Tricia Young expressed great satisfaction and pleasure in being able to talk about religion openly with her co-workers who are Catholic. In the secular PC world, just being an unabashed Catholic, being "who you are" can be a vital act of evangelization.

Suggestion:

Build a greater sense of community within the Parish by encouraging that parishioners sit in the front pews during Mass, rather than be spread out throughout the Church.

Closing Prayer:

Suzanne Doran

Respectfully submitted:

Gerry Barañano

Date: November 2014

To: Parish Pastoral Council

From: Norah Hippolyte

Re: Pastoral Assistant Report

RCIA/RCIA adapted for Children

This year is becoming a blessing for people preparing for Sacraments of Initiation. We have about four adult candidates, ten teen confirmation candidates, and about five for First Holy Communion. We have scheduled the Rite of Acceptance and Welcoming for November 23.

CLW

I did not accomplish my goal of training a new Children's liturgy presider over the summer. I will continue to identify candidates for this very worthwhile position.

Infant Baptism Preparation

It continues to be a busy year for baptism preparation. We are currently averaging about three preparations a month.

Stewardship

January is Stewardship month - how should we highlight Stewardship?

Fundraising

The raffle is going pretty well. I think we should only do one raffle per year. Our next fundraiser is the Advent Bake Sale.

Brews and Views

We have three topics and we have a potential set of speakers for three events next year. The topics are Reconciliation, Women in the Bible, and Evil.

Advertisement

How do we get the word out to the community?

If you have questions, please feel most welcome to ask. I am available at the rectory on Mondays to Wednesdays from 7:30P-9:30P and Saturdays from 1:00P-4:00P. Or you can email me at stleo@pacbell.net.